



# ***THE GYROLOG***

**THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON**

**Club Charter No.15, July 29, 1921**

**President-Sam Gruden, Past President-John Boyd,  
Vice-President-John Mann, Secretary-Barry Walker, Treasurer-Gary Campbell,  
Directors-Cliff French, Ari Hoeksema, David Dyck, Len Stevens  
Database Administrator-John Ross, Gyrolog Editor-Fred Schulte**

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## **MARCH 2014**

Those celebrating their birthdays in March are **Alan Rusler** on the 3rd, **Sheldon Weatherby** on the 11th, **Roy Bennett** on the 17th, **Jack Slobodan** on the 19th, **Len Stevens** on the 27th, **Barry Walker** on the 29th and **Ari (Dutch) Hoeksema** on the 30th. Those celebrating anniversaries are **Mike** and **Sharon Matei**, 25 years on the 18th and **David Dyck** and **Sherley Hearty**, 8 years on the 26th.

**President Sam Gruden** welcomed 52 Gyros, Gyrettes and guests to the March 4th luncheon meeting held at the Royal Mayfair Golf Club.

**President Sam** advised that the posting process in the Gyrolog has been completed for new member applicants, **Peter Carter** and **Bob Kerrison**. Peter and Bob were enthusiastically welcomed in to the club! The formal induction of these members will occur later in the spring.

**Walter Yakimets** introduced our guest speaker the **Hon. Ed Stelmach**. Ed is the grandson of immigrants from Zavyche, Ukraine who settled near Andrew, Alberta in 1898. His parents, Nancy and Michael Stelmach, had five children, of whom Edward was the youngest. Ed entered municipal politics in 1986 with his election to the Council of Lamont County. One year later he was appointed reeve, a position he held until 1993.

In the 1993 provincial election, Stelmach was elected as an MLA for Vegreville-Viking, (later Fort-Saskatchewan-Vegreville). A Progressive Conservative, he served in the cabinets of Ralph Klein as Minister of Intergovernmental Relations, Transportation, Infrastructure and Agriculture, Food and Rural Development. When Ralph Klein resigned the party's leadership, in 2006, Ed entered the leadership race and won on a second ballot victory. **Premier Stelmach** focused heavily on management of the province's oil reserves and developing infrastructure.

He led the Conservatives to a majority win in the 2008 election. Stelmach was succeeded by Allison Redford as Premier on October 7, 2011.

Mr. Stelmach believes that the next step in our management of Alberta's oil resources is to add value to our bitumen. The Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP) estimates that by 2030, the province will be producing 5 million barrels of bitumen daily. We would need seven Keystone and eight Northern Gateway pipelines to export this product. Only 17% of our oil production is refined in Alberta.

The **first new refinery to be built since 1984** will be located approximately 45 km north-east of Edmonton and immediately west of Agrium's Redwater fertilizer operation in Sturgeon County. The new bitumen refinery is to be developed by North West Upgrading Inc. and Canadian Natural Resources Limited. Phase One of the project will process 50,000 barrels of bitumen per day into diesel fuel. Bitumen feedstock will be provided by the Province of Alberta through its

bitumen royalty-in-kind (BRİK) initiative and Canadian Natural. The new refinery will produce some of the cleanest low-sulfur, low-carbon diesel fuel in North America.

Diesel shortages cost our economy \$200 million last year in the farming and industrial sectors. Alberta crude oil is currently subject to pipeline capacity restrictions which has resulted in significant movement of oil by railway tank cars. It costs roughly \$14 per barrel to ship oil by pipeline and \$26 by rail. Movement of grain and oil seeds is being hampered by lack of rail car capacity.

Mr. Stelmach stated that these are missed opportunities when crude oil is not refined in Alberta. West Coast access is not an issue today as diesel pipelines and ships are available. "We have to be the best not just competitive". The more we can refine in Alberta, the less we have to ship by pipe or rail.

Ed finished his presentation by talking about the **Ed Stelmach Community Foundation** which is dedicated to assisting Alberta charities, with a keen eye upon those organizations that may not receive the attention that they deserve and require. The foundation believes wholeheartedly in the values of family: the importance of nurturing children, guiding young parents and rehabilitating those in the greatest need.

**Leon Lubin** thanked the speaker for an interesting, informative and insightful presentation.

The Free Lunch draw was won by **Dick Nichols**.

**Editor's Note:** *The Edmonton Journal Business Section, March 5th, 2014. Article by Jen Skerritt, Bloomberg indicated that Canada's grain supply boom is turning into a bust for farmers as record harvests and railway logjams make sales almost impossible. A backlog of grain railcar orders tops 60,000, eight times more than a year ago. The National Farmers Union estimates lost sales at \$3.5 billion.*

**Editor's note:** *The March 8th, 2014 Business Section of the Edmonton Journal reported that federal Transport Minister, Lisa Raitt issued an order to both Canadian National and Canadian Pacific Railways that grain shipments must be doubled to 500,000 tonnes per week. Failure to comply could result in fines of up to \$100,000 per day. The companies have four weeks to ramp up shipments to meet the volume requirements of 5,500 cars per week. Forty-three ships are waiting on the West Coast for grain. Taken from article by Bill Mah, Edmonton Journal.*



**Ed Stelmach**

**President Sam Gruden** welcomed 34 Gyros and three guests to the March 19th luncheon meeting held at the Royal Mayfair Golf Club. President Sam led the group in the singing of Cheerio and **Jim Lochhead** presented the Grace.

**Cec Butt** introduced our three guests from the Edmonton Journal, **Nick Lees**, **Alan Mayer** and **Ron Powlowski**.

**Treasurer, Gary Campbell** announced that the **Annual Dues of \$235** are payable as of April 1st. Please mail your cheques to Gary, payable to the Gyro Club of Edmonton or bring them to the next luncheon meeting on April 1st.

**Cec Butt** introduced our guest speaker, **Nick Lees**.

**Nick Lees** got his start in journalism in London where he worked on Fleet Street before coming to Canada to write for the Edmonton Journal. Over the years, Nick has written on a dizzying array of adventurous topics and his assignments have included running marathons, parachuting with the Airborne Regiment, travelling in a submarine, driving in demolition derbies and living in an igloo in the Arctic. An ardent fundraiser and supporter of local charities, Nick continues to write a weekly column in the City section about community events and the city's movers and shakers.

Nick indicated that he was born in Glasgow, Scotland and left school at the age of 17. He got interested in journalism and worked at Heathrow Airport and by age 19 was interviewing celebrities coming and going to Britain and Europe. He then tried a stint in television and then moved on to reporting the crime beat from Scotland Yard.

His uncle encouraged him to come to Canada via Calgary and then to Edmonton where he worked at the Journal. He then met a young lady and moved to Santa Monica, California. He was then a bell hop and Maitre De in Colorado before moving back to England where he worked on the oil rigs in the North Sea. Nick came back to Edmonton and was invited by Stephen Hume, Editor, Edmonton Journal to report on unusual events.

Nick adopted the persona of "**Nick Danger**" and decided he wanted to obtain a Canadian Airborne Regiment tee shirt. To get the shirt, Nick had to make six jumps from a tower and then jump out of one the regimental aircraft. He got his regimental shirt!

He then tried to get a part in the Alberta Ballet; he wore the required tutu and got a notice from the Airborne Regiment about his unorthodox behaviour. Nick then was introduced to running Full Marathons by Doug Jones and has raised money for various charities as a member of the "Back of the Pack Gang". In his running career, Nick has completed 55 marathons, including the 100 Anniversary run of the Boston Marathon in 1996. Biking for "**Kid's for Cancer**" has also being a big part of Nick's charity efforts.

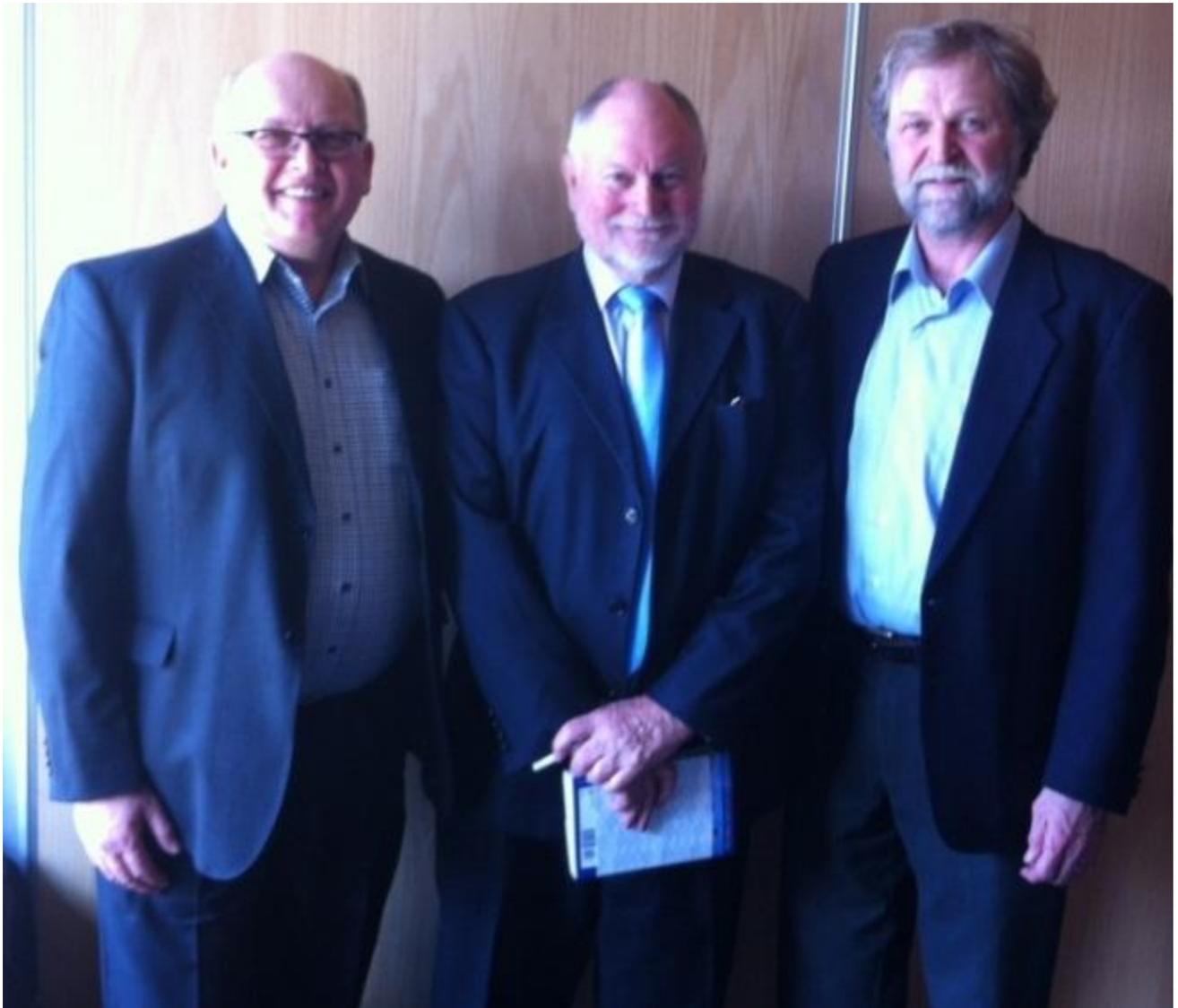
Nick then spoke about his latest event, the **Haida Gwaii Totem Tour**. A totem pole, 100 feet tall and weighing 400 pounds is being carved by Ben Davidson. It will be accompanied back to Edmonton by 37 bike riders over 1760 km on the Yellowhead Highway starting at mile 0 in Prince Rupert. To date there are 11 sponsors who have donated \$6500 each and the 37 riders who have committed to raise \$5000 each. Nick will be part of biking group and hopes to cover about 100 km each day; he will not be able to go the full distance on some of the longer legs.

**Alan Mayer**, one of the riders, spoke about the bike route. There first will be a seven hour ferry trip from Haida Gwaii to Prince Rupert, followed by the bike trip to Edmonton from June 16-July 1st. The highway grade is uphill all through British Columbia and as far as Obed Summit, west of Edson in Alberta. The significance of the totem pole will be shared with supporters along the route. The average leg each day will be 100-110 km. The carving will take permanent residence at the Stollery Children's Hospital in Edmonton.

**Cec Butt**, one of our members will be part of the 37 member biking group.

**Ari Hoeksema** thanked the speakers for their interesting and humourous presentations.

The Free Lunch draw was won by **Allan Warrack**.



**Ron Powlowski**

**Nick Lees**

**Alan Mayer**

Dick Nichols reports on the results of the Hockey Pool.

Game	15	March	4	Winners	First Period	Second Period	Final
<b>Oilers vs. Senators</b>							
<b>First</b>	1	1		Cole Keddie	Don Hunt	Sophie McKinnon	
<b>Second</b>	2	1		Sandra Foy	Ryan Power	Warren Douglas	
<b>Final</b>	3	2		Gyro	Bruce Morter	<b>Tony Mazzuca</b>	

Game 16 March 9 Winners First Period Second Period Final

**Oilers vs. Kings**

<b>First</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	Rudi Lucas	Erin Lucas	Maureen Dea
<b>Second</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Mike Matei</b>	<b>Mike Matei</b>	<b>John Ross</b>
<b>Final</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	Gyro	Gyro	Gyro

Game 17 March 20 Winners First Period Second Period Final

**Oilers vs. Sabres**

<b>First</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	Morgan Burnett	W. Peltier	<b>Bruce Foy</b>
<b>Second</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Bill Taylor</b>	Georgia McKinnon	Craig Russell
<b>Final</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Gary Campbell</b>	Val Pohl	<b>Carol Dobson</b>

### **More African Proverbs**

Seeing is different from being told.

One must talk little, and listen much.

Seeing is better than hearing.

What the child says, he has heard at home.

Not to know is bad; not to wish to know is worse.

Little is better than nothing.

When you know who his friend is, you know who he is.

It is better to be loved than feared.

Quarrels end, but words once spoken never die.

To try and to fail, is not laziness.

To be without a friend, is to be poor, indeed.

Wisdom does not come overnight.

We start as fools and become wise through experience.

*Compiled by Charlotte and Wolf Leslau, Peter Piper Press, 1962.*

'Fast Fred'

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Special Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, **April 1st**  
**Club Executive Elections** and

Speaker: **Tommy Banks**, former Senator and musician

Topic: The Senate's Current Notoriety.

Contact: John Boyd

Regular Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, **April 15th**

Speaker: John McGinnis

Topic: Northern Canada Canoe Trip

Mixed Gyro/Gyrette Event, Club Executive Officers Installation, **Tuesday**  
**Evening, May 6th**

GYRO International and District VIII Convention, Wallace, Idaho, **June 15-**  
**22, 2014**



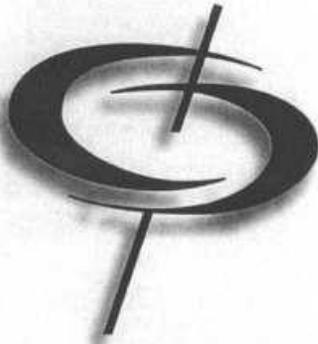
# **PARTY AT THE DROP OF A BALL!**

WHEN THE

WALLACE GYROS HOST

**THE 2014 INTERNATIONAL  
AND DISTRICT VIII CONVENTIONS**

JUNE 15 - 22, 2014



**"Fun for Fun's Sake  
and Friendship for  
Friendship's Sake"**

**COME JOIN THE WALLACE GYRO CLUB  
CELEBRATE OUR 80<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY  
WITH OUR 73<sup>RD</sup> LEAD CREEK DERBY  
AT THE "CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE"**

*'There are no strangers here, only friends we haven't met!'*